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MEMORANDUM RE AUBURN CIDER MILL September 13, 2001

Kenneth Graham gave me the attached Auburn Cider Mill records. His father, William Lawrence Graham, bought the cider mill from _____Nodine. These books are from a period when Mr. Nodine operated the mill.

When Auburn Automobile Company moved manufacturing to Connersville, Mr. Nodine lost his employment and started the cider mill. Mr. Graham believes this was about 1929.

Mr. Graham operated the cider mill until about 1946 or 1947. He may have operated in periodically thereafter. He started the Log Cabin Market which was adjacent to the cider mill which was located at the southeast quadrant of Wayne Street and Auburn Drive.

While Mr. Graham had the cider mill he gave cane seeds to farmers gratis. They planted the seed and then he was reimbursed when they brought the cane in for pressing. It had to be harvested prior to frost. The leaves were stripped off the stalk and then the stalks were cut and put into bundles. These bundles were brought into the mill and squeezed through rollers. This squeezed out the sap which was then boiled down to make sorghum syrup. It was ready when it reached a certain temperature. In a dry year the sap had better quality but not as much quantity. Sandy ground made better sorghum. This was during the depression when everything was tried to make a living and get by. He said one family lived nearly a whole year on pancakes and sorghum syrup.

They also boiled down cider to make what he called "sour jell." This was then used for mincemeat and other purposes. Sugar could be added to it along with other ingredients to make apple jelly.

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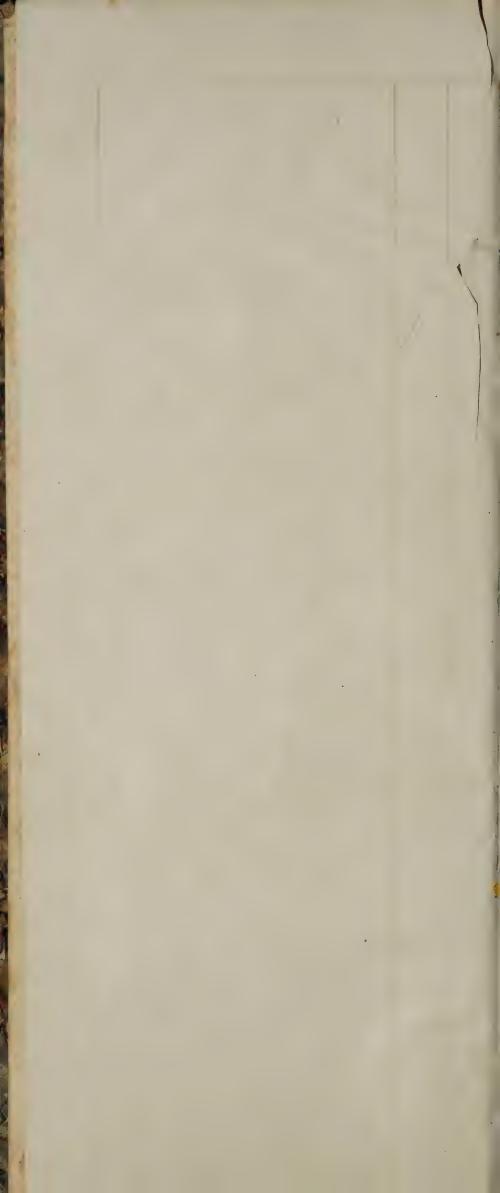
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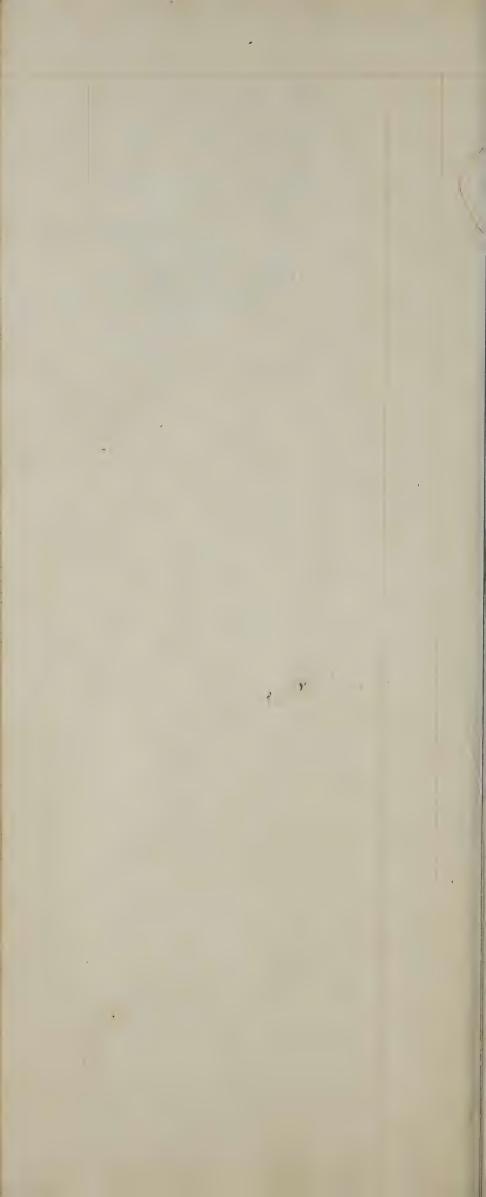


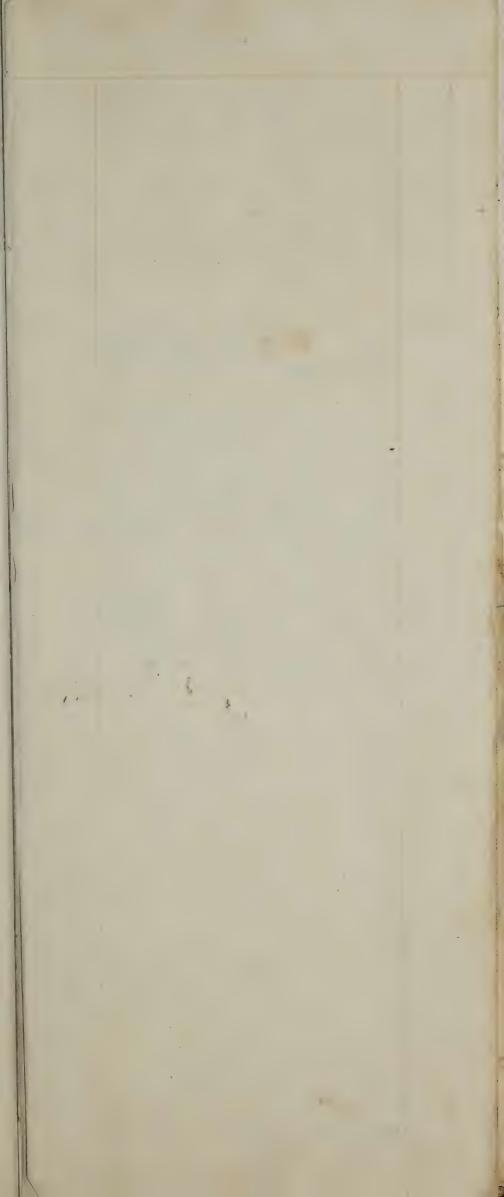


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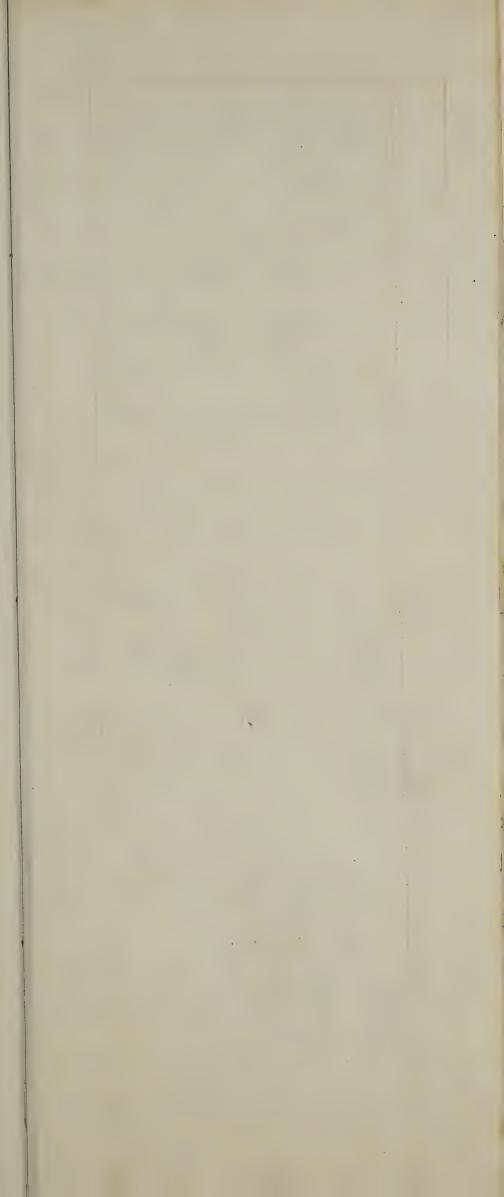




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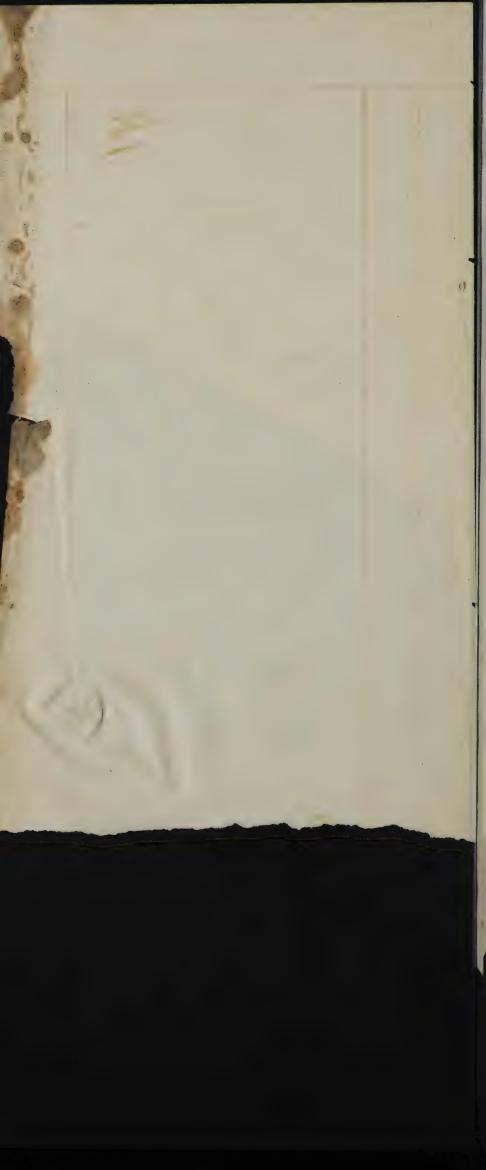
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